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# NATURAL HISTORY

OF THE

# CETACEANS

AND

# OTHER MARINE MAMMALS

OF THE

## WESTERN COAST OF NORTH AMERICA,

WITH AN ACCOUNT OF

## THE AMERICAN WHALE FISHERY.

*Illustrated with Numerous Full-page Plates.*

BY

CHARLES M. SCAMMON,

Captain United States Revenue Marine.

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.:

JOHN H. CARMANY & CO.

1872.

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# CIRCULAR.

Capt. C. M. SCAMMON, of the U. S. Revenue Marine, having for many years been engaged in investigating the Cetacea and other Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast of America, and having accumulated a large store of facts, many of which are believed to be entirely new, and having also made numerous careful and detailed drawings and measurements of these animals, proposes shortly to publish a volume in which these results will be given. Some of the material which has been obtained with so much labor and expense, has been already before the reader in the pages of the "*Overland Monthly*," and also through the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, D. C., and the favor with which this has been received by scientific men and by the public, has given encouragement to the idea of bringing this material together in a permanent form. He has also been encouraged by the high praise bestowed upon his work by the eminent Zoologist, Prof. BAIRD, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, as well as by that of Prof. WHITNEY, the State Geologist of California, and Prof. DAVIDSON, of the U. S. Coast Survey.

The volume which it is proposed to issue will be in large quarto form, elegantly printed, and illustrated with thirty or more fine full-page plates, exhibiting the forms, habits, and peculiarities of the whales, seals, etc., of the Pacific Ocean, and showing also the various weapons used, both by civilized whalers and the savage natives, in the capture and destruction of the animals.

The price of the work—which is to be handsomely bound in cloth—will be Five Dollars to Subscribers.

**JOHN H. CARMANY & CO., Publishers,**

409 Washington Street, San Francisco.

## TESTIMONIALS.

[Letter from Prof. BAIRD, of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.]

WASHINGTON (D. C.), June 1st, 1872.

MY DEAR SIR:

I am much pleased to hear that you intend reproducing your various notes upon the Cetacean and other Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast in a systematic book form, to be accompanied by the Illustrations which interested me so much when I saw them in your Note Book. In the previous paucity of reliable information in regard to Marine Mammals on the Pacific Coast of North America, the appearance of your first Memoir upon the Whales marked an era in their history, and your descriptions and figures have already been translated into the German language and published in Europe.

In the great economical importance of the animals in question, and the extent to which they add to the productive resources of our country, it is of great moment that they should be properly described, while naturalists will find in your work the means of settling a great many doubtful questions.

I trust, therefore, that you will feel inclined to carry out your plan, and that before long we may welcome a book which, I am sure, will make its mark. Few persons have had better opportunities of studying this subject than have fallen to your lot, while I am sorry to say that I scarcely know of another who has used his opportunities in so satisfactory a manner in the cause of Science.

Very truly yours,

SPENCER F. BAIRD.

Capt. C. M. SCAMMON, U. S. Revenue Marine,
*San Francisco, Cal.*

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[Letter from Prof. WHITNEY, State Geologist of California.]

To Capt. C. M. SCAMMON.

MY DEAR SIR:

I learn with much pleasure that you are making arrangements for the publication of the results of the investigations which you have been making for many years, with so much skill and patience, into the habits and distribution of the Cetacea of the Pacific Coast of North America and the Arctic Seas. Having been long familiar with your mode of work, and having had the pleasure of examining, from time to time, the materials you have collected, I feel sure that your results will be of great value, and that they will deeply interest the commercial as well as the scientific world. Your volume will command attention not only on this Coast, but on the Atlantic side of the Continent, as well as in Europe. The proofs of the Illustrations which I have seen are excellent, and they will add greatly to the value of your volume. Wishing you all success in your undertaking,

I remain, very sincerely, yours,

J. D. WHITNEY.

*San Francisco*, June 22d, 1872.

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[Letter from Prof. DAVIDSON, Asst. U. S. Coast Survey, in charge Pacific Coast.]

SAN FRANCISCO, CAL., June 20th, 1872.

MY DEAR CAPTAIN:

I have examined with interest and gratification your original Drawings, and the specimen Engraving thereof, to illustrate your proposed work on the Cetacea.

Your long study and practical acquaintance with the Whale and its congeners throughout the Pacific, make you authority upon the subject.

In our frequent conversations upon the Whale, I have repeatedly urged you to this step; and now that you are launched upon it, command my hearty assistance in every way.

Yours, very sincerely,

GEORGE DAVIDSON.

To Capt. C. M. SCAMMON, U. S. Revenue Marine,
*San Francisco, Cal.*

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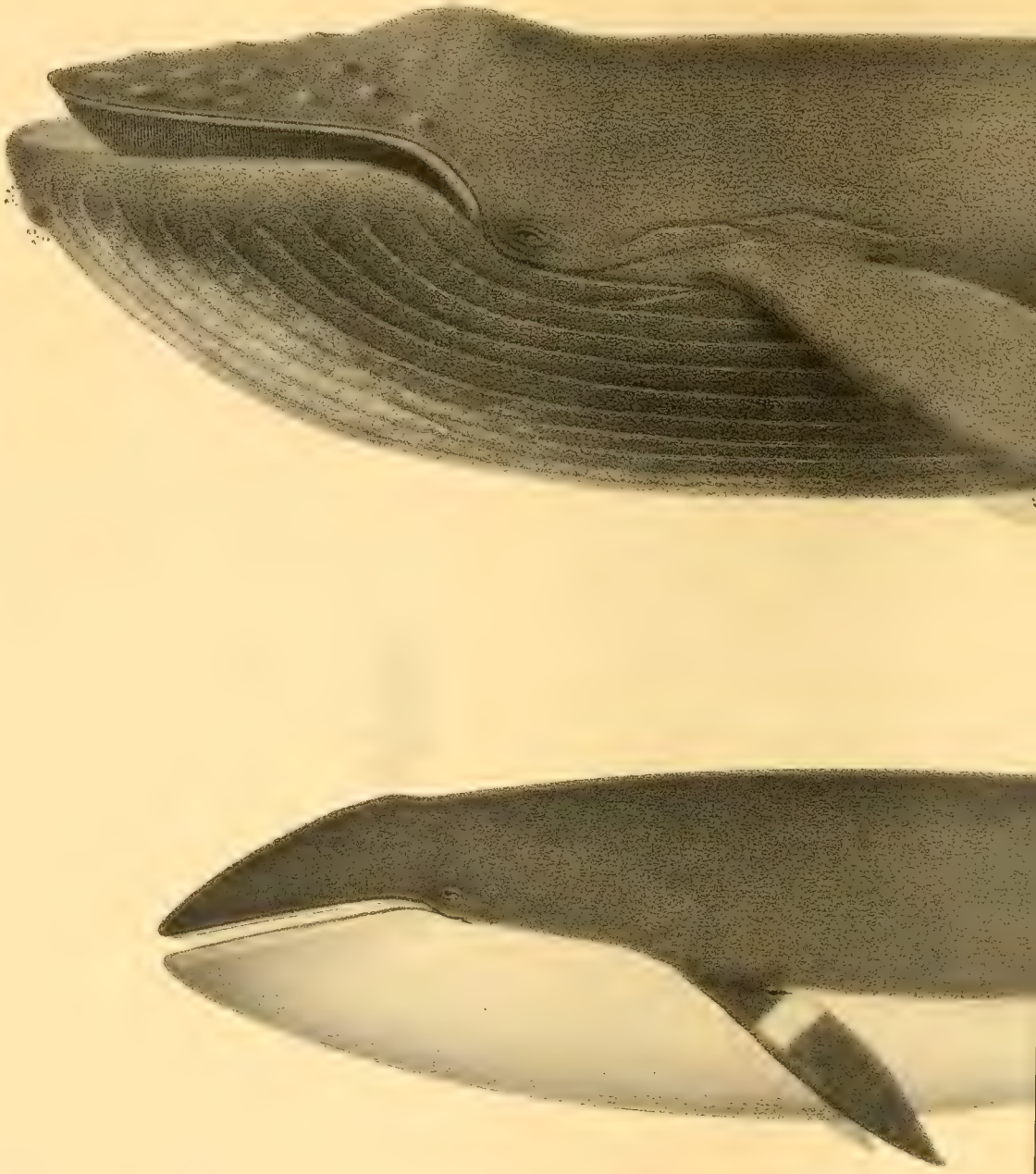

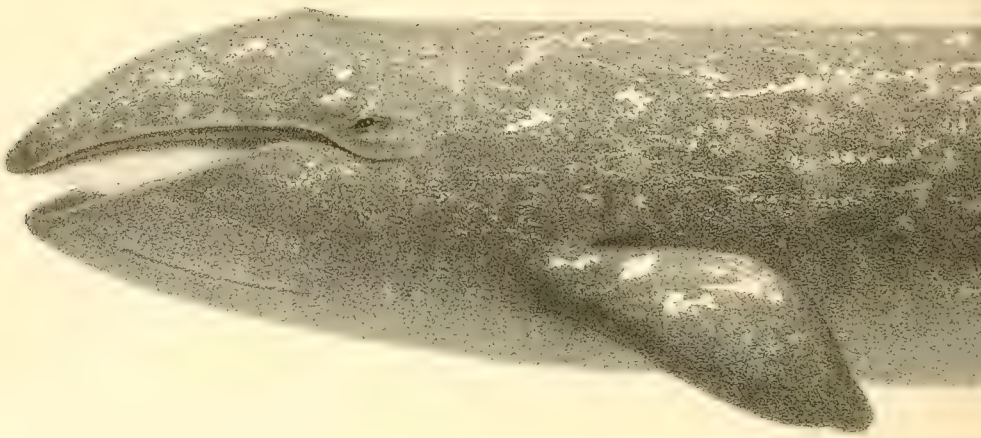

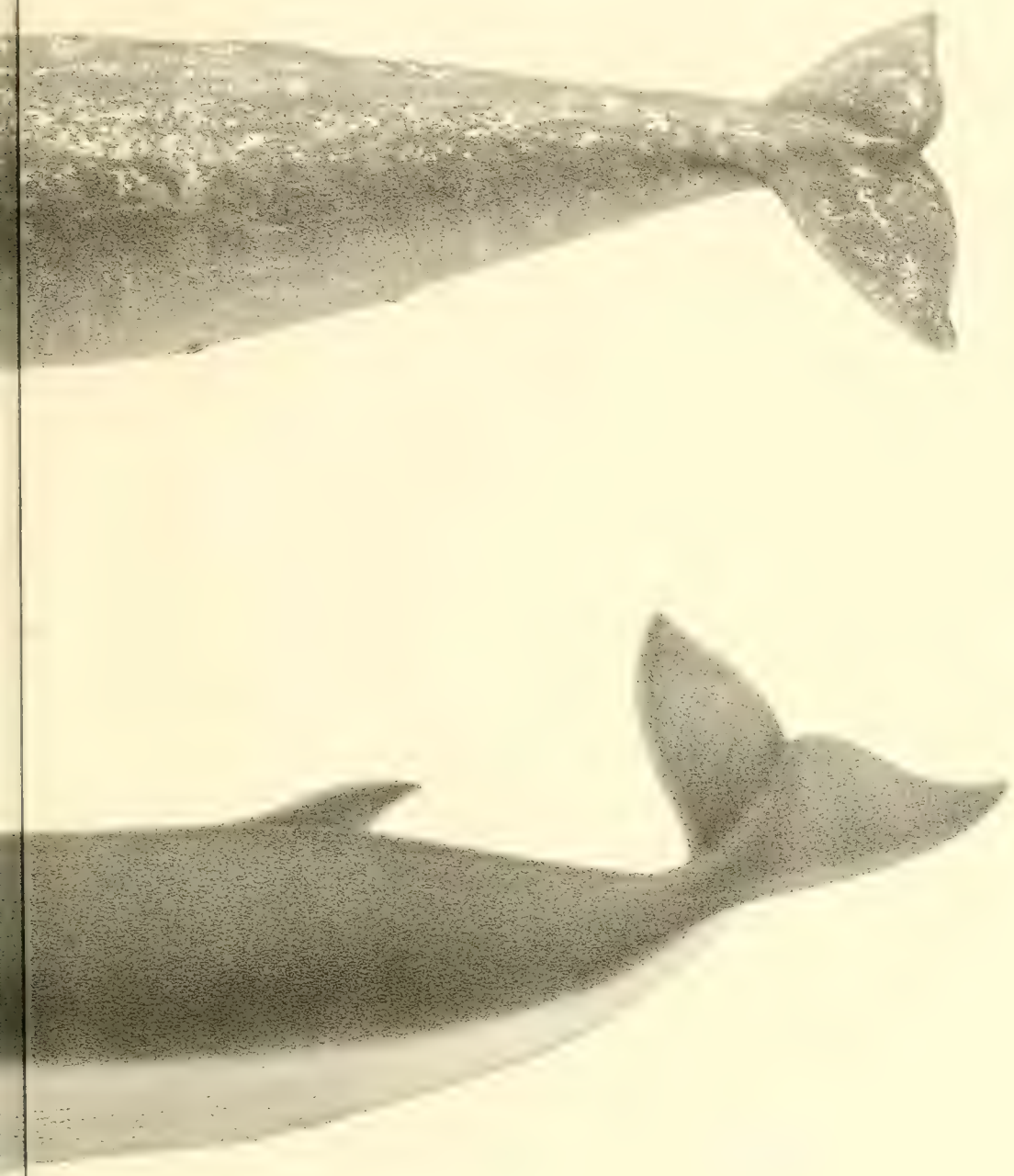

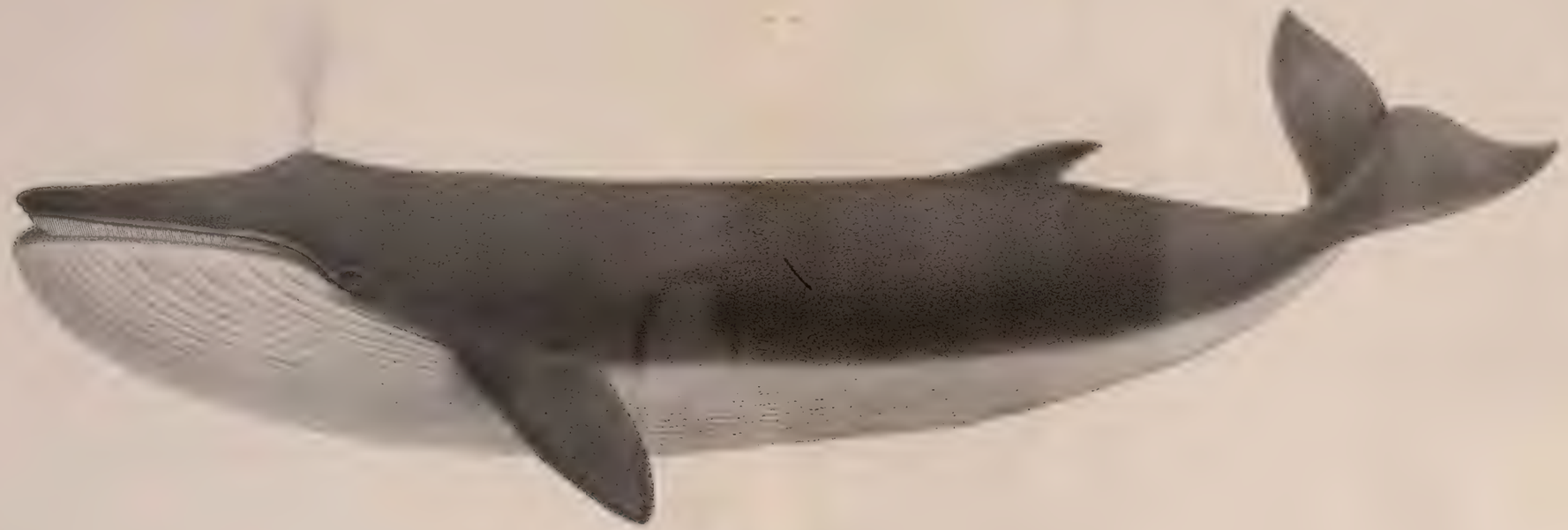

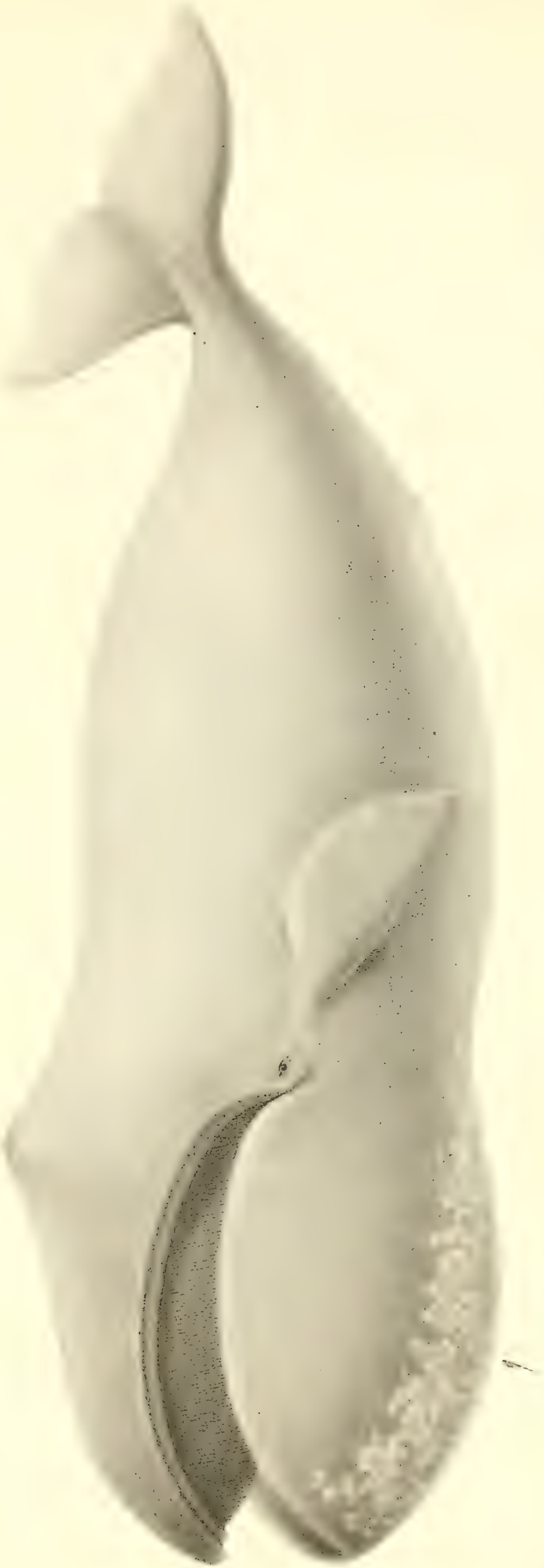

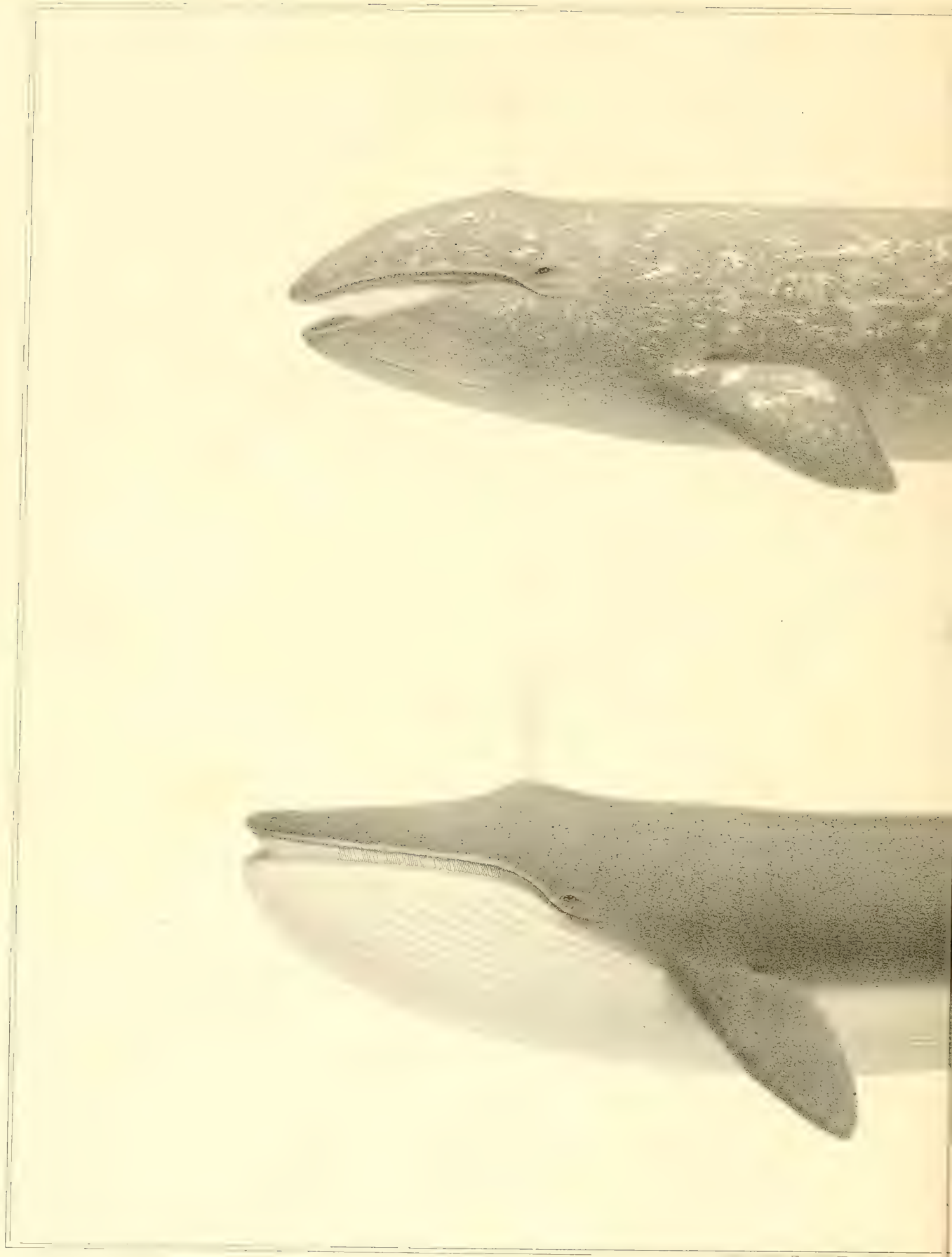

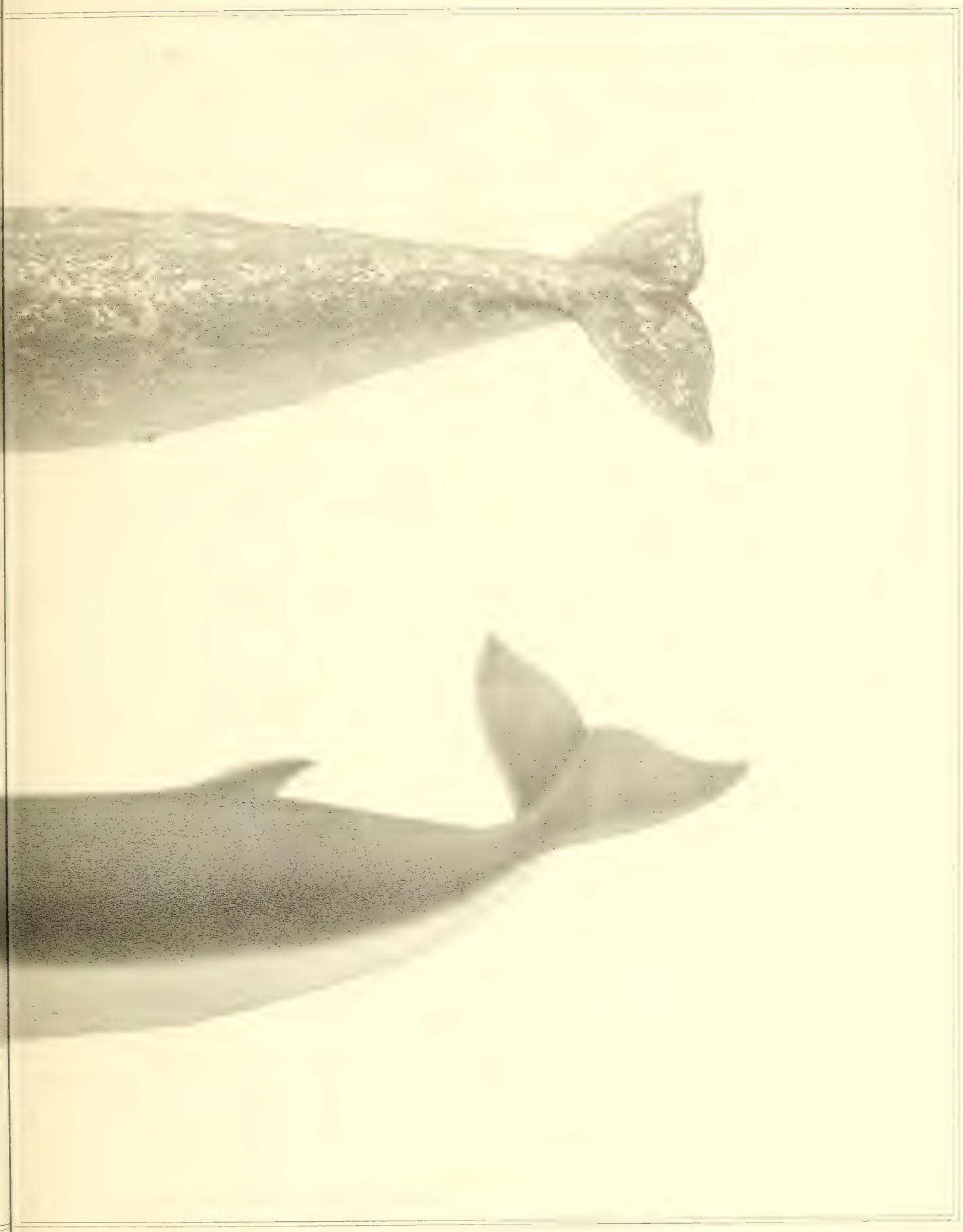

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